

CLAIMS

1. A side-mounted rearview mirror assembly comprising a mirror housing enclosing a mirror case supporting a reflective element and a support base having a mounting panel for mounting the mirror ,
at least one hook assembly extending from the mounting panel
5 configured to engage at least one socket mounting the mirror assembly to a vehicle by translating said mounting panel relative to said at least one socket,
and
a resilient seal assembly extending along at least a portion of the perimeter of the support base for engaging the vehicle.
2. The side-mounted rearview mirror assembly of claim 1 wherein the at least one hook assembly comprises three hook assemblies and the at least one socket comprises three sockets.
3. The side-mounted rearview mirror assembly of claim 1 and further comprising at least one boss extending from the mounting panel and at least one locator pad extending from the side panel, the at least one boss being adapted for movement away from the side panel when the at least one boss is translated along the
5 at least one locator pad as the mounting panel is translated along the side panel to mount the mirror to the vehicle.
4. The side-mounted rearview mirror assembly of claim 1 wherein the at least one hook assembly comprises a pair of hooks.
5. The side-mounted rearview mirror assembly of claim 1 wherein the resilient seal assembly comprises a trim frame adapted for mounting over the support base when the mirror is mounted to the vehicle.
6. The side-mounted rearview mirror assembly of claim 1 wherein the resilient seal assembly comprises an integrated portion of the mounting panel.
7. The side-mounted rearview mirror assembly of claim 1 and further comprising a support base cover assembly for covering the support base when the mirror is mounted to the vehicle.

8. The side-mounted rearview mirror assembly of claim 7 wherein the support base cover assembly comprises a base sleeve and a support base panel removable from the base sleeve.
9. The side-mounted rearview mirror assembly of claim 1 wherein the mounting panel is translated along the side panel toward the front portion of the motor vehicle.
10. The side-mounted rearview mirror assembly of claim 1 wherein the mirror case further comprises a pivot point at an outboard end thereof for adjusting the horizontal and vertical tilt of the mirror case.
11. The side-mounted rearview mirror assembly of claim 10 and further comprising a power pack mounted to an inboard end of the mirror case for adjusting the horizontal and vertical tilt of the mirror case about the pivot point.
12. The side-mounted rearview mirror assembly of claim 1 and further comprising an access opening in the mirror housing for gaining access to the interior of the mirror housing and a flexible, removable door for covering the access opening.
13. A vehicular mirror mounting system for mounting a vehicular mirror to a side panel of a vehicle comprising:
a mirror mounting panel adapted to receive a mirror head with a reflective element mounted therein, the mirror mounting panel having one of a flange and a socket directed in a forward direction with respect to a direction of travel of the vehicle;
a vehicle side panel having the other of a flange and a socket directed in a rearward direction with respect to a direction of travel of the vehicle;
wherein the flange is adapted to be slidably received within the socket when the flange and socket are operably aligned with one another and the mirror mounting panel is moved forwardly with respect to the vehicle side panel so that the flange is received within the socket.

14. The system of claim 13 and further comprising at least one fastener fixedly mounting the mirror mounting panel to the vehicle side panel.

15. The system of claim 14 wherein the at least one fastener comprises at least one threaded fastener extending through aligned apertures in the mirror mounting panel and the vehicle side panel.

16. The system of claim 13 and further comprising at least one seal mounted to at least one peripheral edge of the mirror mounting panel.

17. The system of claim 16 wherein the at least one seal is integrally formed with the mirror mounting panel.

18. The system of claim 17 wherein the at least one seal comprises a flip seal.

19. The system of claim 16 wherein the at least one seal forms an effective barrier against wind and water ingress when the mirror mounting panel is mounted to the vehicle side panel when the flange is received within the socket.

20. The system of claim 13 wherein the socket further comprises a locator pad positioned adjacent thereto.

21. The system of claim 20 and further comprising a boss in spaced relationship to the flange.

22. The system of claim 21 and further comprising a locator pad in spaced relationship to the socket, wherein the locator pad is in register with the boss when the mirror mounting panel is mounted to the side panel to create tension therebetween to further secure the mounting between these components.

23. A system for mounting a vehicular mirror to a side panel of a vehicle having a side panel mounting portion thereon comprising:

a mirror mounting panel having a mirror mounting portion thereon;

- wherein the mirror mounting panel has at least one seal integrally
5 formed with at least one peripheral edge thereof that forms an effective barrier against wind and water ingress when the mirror mounting panel is mounted to the vehicle side panel when the mirror mounting portion is received by the side panel mounting portion.

24. The system of claim 23 wherein the mirror mounting portion and the side panel mounting portion are adapted to be slidably engaged with one another to mount the mirror mounting panel to the side panel of the vehicle.

25. The system of claim 24 wherein the mirror mounting portion is one of a flange and a socket.

26. The system of claim 25 wherein the side panel mounting portion is the other of a flange and a socket.

27. The system of claim 26 wherein the flange is mountable within the socket when the flange is slid forwardly in the direction of vehicle travel into the socket.

28. The system of claim 27 wherein the socket further comprises a locator pad positioned adjacent thereto.

29. The system of claim 28 and further comprising a boss in spaced relationship to the flange.

30. The system of claim 29 and further comprising a locator pad in spaced relationship to the socket, wherein the locator pad is in register with the boss when the mirror mounting panel is mounted to the side panel to create tension therebetween to further secure the mounting between these components.

31. A mirror case for a vehicular rearview mirror assembly comprising a housing and a tilt mechanism attached at at least one attachment point to the mirror case for adjusting the orientation of the mirror case about two perpendicular axes, the mirror case having a pivot point spaced from the at least one attachment point at

- 5 which the mirror case is mounted in the rearview mirror assembly to enable the mirror case to pivot about the two perpendicular axes but prevent the mirror case from translating along a third axis perpendicular to the two perpendicular axes, wherein:

the spacing between the pivot point and the attachment point of the tilt mechanism to the mirror case is maximized.

32. The mirror case of claim 31 wherein the pivot point is located adjacent an outboard end of the mirror case.

33. The mirror case of claim 31 wherein the attachment point of the tilt mechanism to the mirror case is located adjacent an inboard end of the mirror case.

34. The mirror case of claim 31 wherein the housing comprises an access opening for gaining access to the interior of the housing and further comprises a flexible, removable door for covering the access opening.